



New Hampshire trims the Democratic field



MATT ROURKE | Associated Press

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Bernie Sanders and his wife, Jane Sanders, leave a polling place in Manchester, N.H., on Tuesday.

Bernie Sanders held a narrow lead over Pete Buttigieg late Tuesday night. Andrew Yang and Michael Bennet ended their presidential bids.

BY STEVE PEOPLES, KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND HUNTER WOODALL
Associated Press

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Bernie Sanders held a narrow lead over Pete Buttigieg in the New Hampshire Democratic primary Tuesday night as the two ideological opposites battled it out for front-runner status in the chaotic nomination fight to take on President Donald Trump.

Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, a Midwestern moderate like former Mayor Buttigieg, was trailing in third place. It was an unexpectedly strong showing for Klobuchar, who surged following

a standout debate performance on Friday.

But the night was disappointing for two prominent White House hopefuls. Former Vice President Joe Biden was competing with Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren for fourth place.

At least two candidates dropped out in the wake of weak finishes Tuesday night: just-the-facts moderate Colorado Sen. Michael Bennet and political newcomer Andrew Yang, who attracted a small but loyal following over the past year and was one of just three candidates of color left in the race.

While struggling candidates sought to minimize the latest results, history suggests that the first-in-the-nation primary will have enormous influence shaping the 2020 race. In the modern era, no Democrat has ever become the party's general election nominee without finishing first or second in New Hampshire.

Trump easily wins Republican primary

President Donald Trump, facing token opposition from former Massachusetts Gov. Bill Weld, See PRIMARY, 15A



An election worker holds a roll of "I Voted" stickers during the New Hampshire primary at Parker-Varney Elementary School in Manchester, N.H., on Tuesday.

In voucher debate, 1 man tries to bridge divide

Florida's only black, gay lawmaker looks to bring LGBTQ and private school advocates to the table.

BY EMILY L. MAHONEY
Times/Herald Tallahassee Bureau

TALLAHASSEE — The evolving debate over anti-LGBTQ policies in private voucher schools is now framed as an unavoidable dilemma for Florida.

Either allow these policies that discriminate against LGBTQ students and their families, or take vouchers away from low-income, mostly black and Hispanic families who are already attending private schools with these funds.

That binary framing has twisted the issue into one where two minority groups are at odds, with both sides lobbing accusations that the other group is harming underrepresented students by playing politics. As the debate's rhetoric contin-

ues to overheat — both in the Capitol and on Twitter — it has exposed a clear schism fraught with politics, identity and race.

Enter: the state's first and only out gay black state lawmaker.

Democrat Rep. Shevrin Jones, a former Broward public school teacher who also attends a church that accepts voucher students, says he has decided that his role in this increasingly bitter fight is to try to broker a peace.

"Someone has to be there to be the moderator, hopefully to bring both sides together and bring what's best for kids," Jones said. "We need to make sure these kids are 1) not being discriminated against, and 2) that children are not See JONES, 7A



SCOTT KEELER | Times (2019)

State Rep. Shevrin Jones, D-West Park, shakes hands with Rep. Kamia Brown, D-Ocoee. Jones sees himself as uniquely positioned to broker peace on school vouchers.

Justice steps in for Stone

Four prosecutors quit after the department cuts sentence sought for president's ally.

BY MICHAEL BALSAMO AND ERIC TUCKER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Four lawyers who prosecuted Roger Stone quit the case Tuesday after the Justice Department said it would take the extraordinary step of lowering the amount of prison time it would seek for President Donald Trump's longtime ally and confidant.



Roger Stone

The decision by the Justice Department came just hours after Trump complained that the recommended sentence for Stone was "very horrible and unfair." The Justice Department said the sentencing recommendation was made Monday night — before Trump's tweet — and prosecutors had not spoken to the White House about it.

The four attorneys, including two who were early members of special counsel Robert Mueller's Russia team, had made up the Justice Department's trial team.

On Monday night, they had signed onto a Monday court filing recommending that Stone serve seven to nine years behind bars after being convicted of charges including lying to Congress, witness tampering and obstructing the House investigation into whether the Trump campaign coordinated with Rus- See STONE, 15A

KIERMAIER CONCERN ABOUT NEW PLAYER IS QUICKLY GONE

The Rays reassured their star centerfielder that his place on the team is not affected. **Sports, 1B**

Feds may pull funds for housing complex

St. Petersburg's Housing Authority has missed deadlines for Jordan Park, officials say. **Local, 3A**

Teacher unions: Active shooter drills do harm

They say there are better ways to prepare without traumatizing children. **Nation, 9A**

Researchers look at seniors, loneliness

Not everyone who lives alone is lonely. What makes a difference? **Focus: Health & Medicine, 12A**

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